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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

COUNTRY	USSR/Austria	REPORT NO.		50X1
SUBJECT	Two Alleged New Soviet Pistols	DATE DISTR.	18 November 1955	
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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE:

50X1 Attached is a copy of which is being forwarded as received

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STATE	#X	ARMY	#X	NAVY	#X	AIR	#X	FBI	#X	AEC						
(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")																

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REPORT NO.

COUNTRY USSR/Austria

DATE DISTR. 26 Aug 1955

SUBJECT Two Alleged New Soviet Pistols

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REFERENCES:

PLACE ACQUIRED

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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SOURCE

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TWO ALLEGED NEW SOVIET PISTOLS

Introduction

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Source stated that in Jul 54, two new types of Soviet Army pistols appeared [redacted] He could not identify either as to type, model or even caliber, except that he believed both were of a larger caliber than 7.62 mm. 1. One of the types, [redacted] hereafter referred to as type A,) was issued to the regimental chief of staff, regimental communications chief and certain other staff officers. The other, (referred to henceforth as type B,) was issued to all unit CO's down to platoon leaders. 2. Both types were issued as replacements for the TT-33 or the Nagant models.

Generally, Source described both pistols as being very similar to each other in construction. Both were of the same caliber, and both allegedly fired a new unidentified cartridge. Also, Source stated that he was quite familiar with the older TT-33 model; and both new pistols were copies of the TT-33 with a few differences. 3. One of the new pistols, type A, was larger than the TT-33 and one, type B, was smaller. 2.

A. THE TYPE A PISTOL (See Annex A)

1. Basis of Knowledge

Source claimed to have seen this pistol frequently and to have examined it on one occasion [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] However, he had never seen it field-stripped or fired. 50X1

2. Characteristics

a. General

Caliber	Greater than 7.62 mm (estimated) ^{4,6}
Ammunition	See [redacted] Comment 4 50X1
Operation	Recoil-operated. Was believed by Source to be similar to that of the TT-33.
Type of Fire	Selective: semi - and full-automatic with selector lever on left rear side of frame.
Weight without holster	Approximately 800 g.
Weight, loaded and with holster	Approximately 1,600 g.
Overall Dimensions:	
Length	Approximately 22 cm
Height	Approximately 16 cm
Thickness of slide	Approximately 2½ cm
Length with holster	Approximately 52 cm

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Magazine capacity	20 rounds, staggered.
Rate of fire	Unknown
Muzzle velocity	Unknown
Range	Unknown
Sight Radius	16 to 18 cm.
Sights	
Rear	"L" Flip type. Stamped on sight were the numbers 10 and 20 4.
Front	Open blade (same as TT-33).
Ejection Port	On left side. About the same length but wider than that of the TT-33.
Pistol Grips	Yellowish plastic with five-pointed star.
Barrel Locking Bushing	Similar to that of the TT-33.
Barrel Slide lock	On right side. Similar to that of the TT-33.
Slide catch	On left side. Similar to that of TT-33.
Trigger	Stirrup type.
Magazine:	Straight box
Height	Approximately 12 cm
Length	Approximately 2 1/2 cm
Width	Approximately 2 cm
Lips	Curved
Holster	See Interrogator's Comment 5

b. Differences between Type A and TT-33 Models

The following differences between Type A and the T-33 type pistol were noted by Source. In the case of Type A, he stated, its overall dimensions were greater. It had both semi and full-automatic fire, a double-action trigger, and "L" slip-type rear sight, and a wooden holster that was utilized as a shoulder stock.

B. THE TYPE B PISTOL

1. Basis of Knowledge

Source observed this pistol frequently. He saw it unholstered at some distance but had never field-stripped or fired it.

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a. General

Caliber	Greater than 7.62 mm. 4,6
Ammunition	See Comment 4 50X1
Operation	Recoil-operated. It was assumed by Source to be similar to that of the TT-33.
Type of Fire	Assumed by Source to be semi-automatic, from hearsay information.
Length	Estimated by Source to be approximately 1½ inches shorter than the TT-33.
Height	Estimated by Source to be approximately 3/4th of an inch shorter than the TT-33.
Magazine Capacity	7 or 8 rounds. (Hearsay information received by Source)
Trigger Action	Assumed by Source to be double-action.
Holster	Leather

b. Differences between it and TT-33 Pistol

Source stated that with respect to the Type B and TT-33 pistols, the former had smaller overall dimensions, semi-automatic fire only and a double-action trigger. The second difference was hearsay information while the third was Source's opinion.

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- Comment 1: After considerable preliminary interrogation, which indicated that both pistols were similar to the Soviet TT-33 one, Source was shown the TT-33. He identified it correctly as to type and as being very similar in characteristics to both of the new pistols.
- Comment 2: Source could not explain the apparent paradox that unit CO's and line officers received what appeared to be a less effective weapon than did staff officers at regimental level.
- Comment 3: Since the characteristics of the TT-33 model are well known, only the differences between the two new types and it are indicated in this report.
- Comment 4: To establish the knowledgeability of Source on Soviet small arms ammunition, he was shown several types of rounds which included the American T-65. He was not told that the T-65 was an American round. He selected the Soviet M1908 rifle cartridge, Soviet M1930 pistol cartridge and the T-65 for a basis of comparison, and he immediately selected the T-65 as being very similar to the Soviet M1943 cartridge used in the new Soviet carbine and SMG.

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Source was then asked what round was most similar to the new Soviet Pistol cartridge. He selected a 9 mm parabellum round and pointed out the following two differences between it and the new rounds for types A and B.

(1) The overall length of the new pistol round was about $\frac{1}{2}$ cm shorter than the 9 mm parabellum.

(2) The bullet nose on the new pistol round was more rounded. Source could not furnish any further details.

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Comment 5: Source stated that the new Type A pistol was holstered in a wooden holster which could be converted into a shoulder stock. The rear of the pistol grip had a metal keyway about 1 cm wide and about 7 cm long, while the holster had a corresponding metal boss which slid into this keyway. The back of the holster has accommodations for the attachment of a shoulder strap or waist belt. The weapon, when carried with the shoulder strap, was slung across the shoulder. When the waist belt was used the weapon was carried in the conventional manner.

(A photograph of a holster appeared in a Russian magazine titled Military Knowledge (Issue No 2, dated 1955). This holster was believed to be the holster which carried the new pistol. After all the data was obtained from Source on the new pistols, Source was asked to identify the photograph. He stated that the item in question was undoubtedly the new Soviet pistol with holster.)

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Comment 6: This report is somewhat at variance with new pistol information previously reported. Several [] have reported the pistol with wooden stock-holster as being 7.62 caliber and that it is in the hands of unit commanders.

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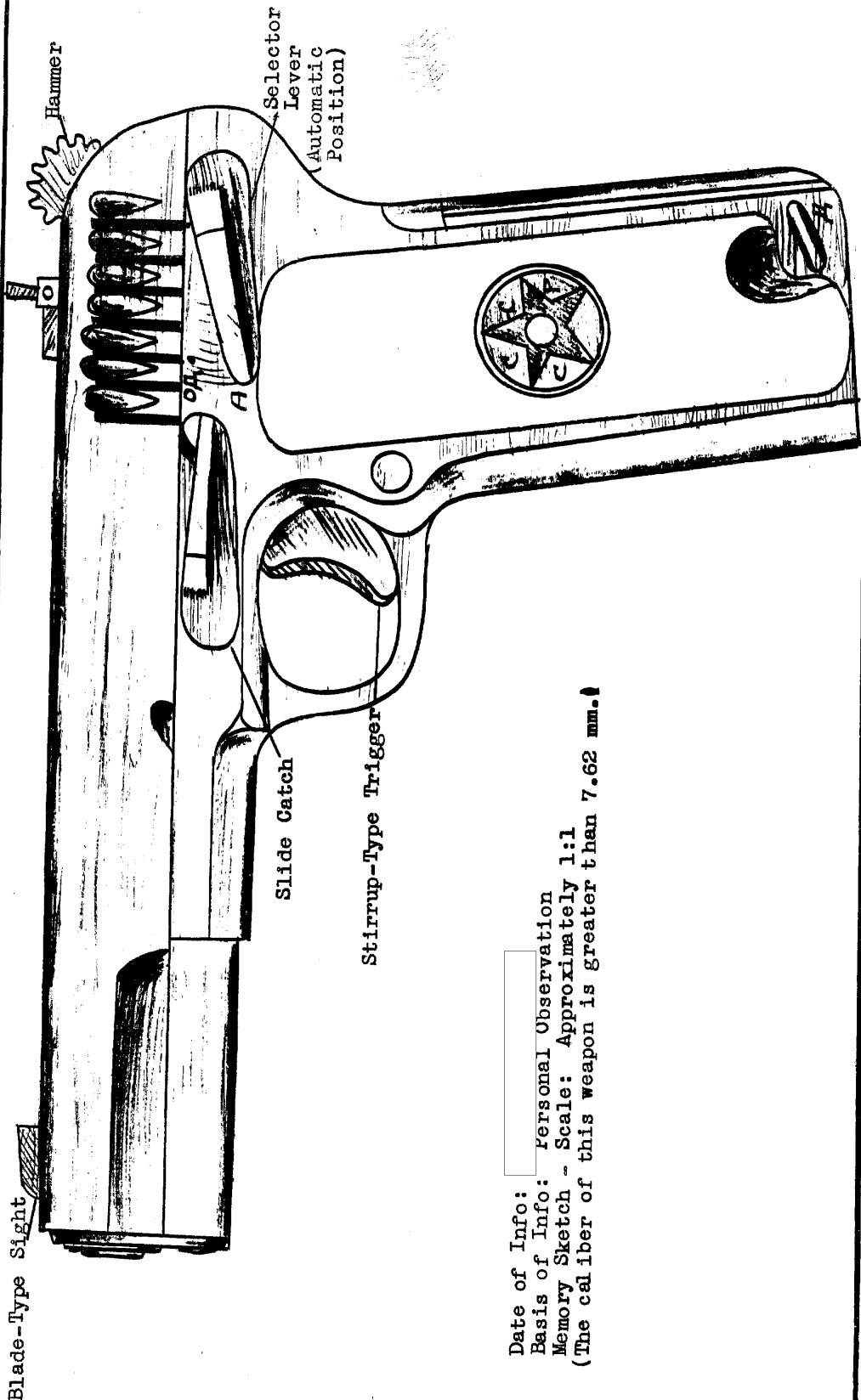
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Alleged New Soviet Pistol (Type A) L FlipType Sight



Date of Info: [redacted]
Basis of Info: Personal Observation
Memory Sketch - Scale: Approximately 1:1
(The caliber of this weapon is greater than 7.62 mm.)

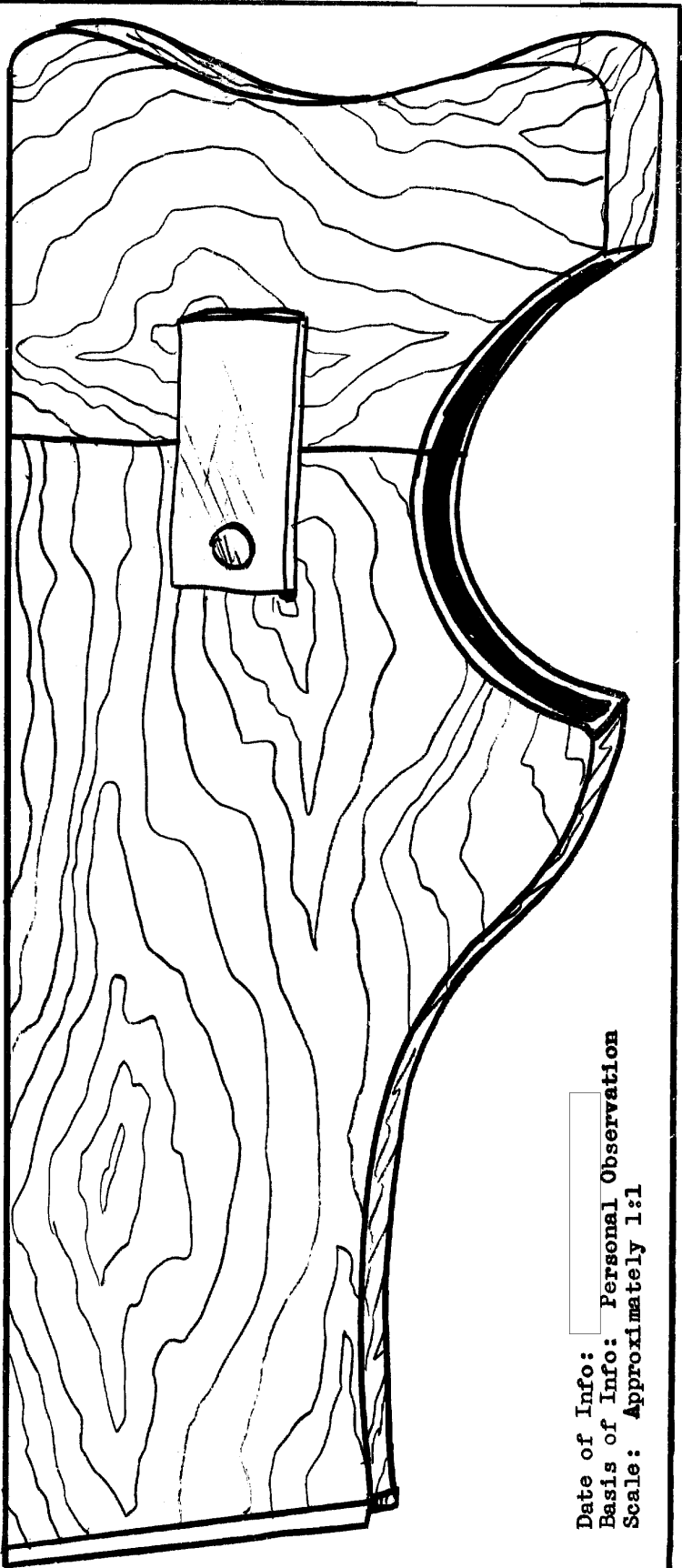
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Annex B
Memory Sketch of Wooden Holster of Alleged New Soviet Pistol (Type A)



Date of Info:
Basis of Info: Personal Observation
Scale: Approximately 1:1

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